

**From:** D R  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/22/02 6:38pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am appalled by the Department of Justice's case against Microsoft. Even if Microsoft were a monopoly (which it isn't; the Bill Gates controls 90% of the market claim is false and bizarre), the government should have no right to prevent private monopolies. The Antitrust laws are a mess of contradictory edicts intended by their collectivist originators to punish successful individuals and businesses simply for being successful. Antitrust should be ruled unconstitutional.

To label as criminal business activities that involve superior ability and strategy but do not involve physical coercion, to declare honest businesspeople to be dishonest, to damn the actual working of the free market, to reject and seek to undo by force of law the legal choices of millions of consumers worldwide is a monstrous thing, an intrusion of a gangster into a marketplace, a perversion of justice.

Whiners, cry-babies, and losers who oppose Microsoft are running to Washington to correct the free market. Why? Because Microsoft refused to underwrite their aspirations. Because this Big Company didn't behave like Big Daddy and let every two-bit Mom and Pop outfit ride to riches on its coattails. The opponents of Microsoft are declaring that they are owed not only a living, but also all the glory, success, wealth, and adulation that Bill Gates has. But, for what? The consumers (I am one of them) didn't agree; the suppliers didn't agree; the market, as such, didn't agree.

What we're seeing in the loser companies who complained about Microsoft originally (consumers love Microsoft, only their competitors do not), is no more than a desire for unearned wealth and prestige and an immoral feeling of envy and jealousy when they don't get it. This leads them to demand government action against someone whose only crime has been achieving success in that particular field.

The court, at the very least, must uphold the free market and the right of property.

Yes, there will be winners and losers - but as long as no physical coercion, or threat thereof, is involved, the winners and losers deserve their lot.

When businessmen are punished for their achievement, and the greater their success the harsher the penalty, society is devoured by envy, and the end of that road is the grim egalitarianism that has ravaged every socialist wasteland.

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